IN THE CLAIMS:

1.   A data processing apparatus capable of performing data communication with various peripheral devices connected on a predetermined communication medium, comprising:

obtaining means for obtaining connection information and status information about said peripheral devices;

system display means for displaying a system configuration on a display with icons based on said connection information and said status information obtained by said obtaining means;

designation means for designating the combination of any of said icons displayed on said display;

determination means for determining whether combined functions based on said combination of icons designated by said designation means is valid or not; and

setup screen display means for displaying on said display a setup screen for the combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation means if said combined functions are determined to be valid.

2.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

control means for controlling the peripheral devices involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation means in order to execute said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

3.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said control means controls said peripheral device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

4.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation means, said control means causes image data to be input to said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

5.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said system display means modifies the appearance of the icons designated by said designation means distinguishably from the other icons, if said combined functions are determined to be valid by said determination means.

6.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

when icons are designated by said designation means, said system display means modifies the appearance of said designated icons distinguishably from the other icons.

7.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing an printer are designated by said designation means, said system display means causes an image to be displayed on said display, said image indicating that data is being transferred from said scanner to said printer.

8.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

parameter determination means for determining a parameter involving said combined functions based on information about the function of peripheral devices according to the combination of icons designated by said designation means.

9.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said setup screen display means causes said setup screen to be displayed on said display based on the parameter determined by said parameter determination means.

10.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation means, said determination means determines the resolution of a copy function based on the resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said printer.

11.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein;

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation means, said determination means determines which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is to be performed.

12.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation means, said determination means determines a paper size.

13.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said obtaining means obtains information about the function of said peripheral device.

14.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein plural other data processing apparatuses capable of performing data communication with said data processing apparatus are connected to said predetermined communication medium.

15.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein any of said plurality of data processing apparatus is assigned as a management server.

16.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 15, wherein:

said obtaining means obtains said connection information and said status information from said management server.

17.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said peripheral devices includes a printer.

18.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said peripheral devices includes a facsimile.

19.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said peripheral devices includes a digital copier.

20.   The data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said peripheral devices including a scanner.

21.   A data processing method in a data processing apparatus capable of performing data communication with various peripheral devices connected to a predetermined communication medium, comprising the steps of:

obtaining connection information and status information about said peripheral devices;

displaying a system configuration on a display with icons based on said connection information and said status information obtained by said obtaining step;

designating the combination of any of said icons displayed on said display;

determining whether combined functions based on said combination of icons designated by said designation step is valid or not; and

displaying on said display a setup screen for the combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation step if said combined functions are determined to be valid.

22.   The data processing method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of controlling the peripheral devices involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation step in order to execute said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

23.   The data processing method according to claim 22, wherein said control step controls said peripheral device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

24.   The data processing method according to claim 22, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said control step causes image data to be input to

said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

25. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said system display step modifies the appearance of the icons designated by said designation step distinguishably from the other icons, if said combined functions are determined to be valid by said determination step.

26. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein:

when icons are designated by said designation step, said system display step modifies the appearance of said designated icons distinguishably from the other icons.

27. The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing an printer are designated by said designation step, said system display step causes an image to be displayed on said display, said image indicating that data is being transferred from said scanner to said printer.

28. The data processing method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of determining a parameter involving said combined functions based on information about the function of peripheral devices according to the combination of icons designated by said designation step.

29. The data processing method according to claim 28, wherein said setup screen display step causes said setup screen to be displayed on said display based on the parameter determined by said parameter determination step.

30. The data processing method according to claim 28, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines the resolution

of a copy function based on the resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said printer.

31.   The data processing method according to claim 28, wherein;

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is to be performed.

32.   The data processing method according to claim 28, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines a paper size.

33.   The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said obtaining step obtains information about the function of said peripheral device.

34.   The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein plural other data processing apparatuses capable of performing data communication with said data processing apparatus are connected to said predetermined communication medium.

35.   The data processing method according to claim 33, wherein any of said plurality of data processing apparatuses is assigned as a management server.

36.   The data processing method according to claim 35, wherein said obtaining step obtains said connection information and said status information from said management server.

37.   The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said peripheral devices includes a printer.

38.   The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said peripheral devices includes a facsimile.

39.   The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said peripheral devices includes a digital copier.

40.   The data processing method according to claim 21, wherein said peripheral devices including a scanner.

41.   A computer-readable memory medium which stores a program for a data processing apparatus capable of performing data communication with various peripheral devices connected to a predetermined communication medium, the program comprising the steps of

obtaining connection information and status information about said peripheral devices;

displaying a system configuration on a display with icons based on said connection information and said status information obtained by said obtaining step;

designating the combination of any of said icons displayed on said display;

determining whether combined functions based on said combination of icons designated by said designation step is valid or not; and

displaying on said display a setup screen for the combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation step if said combined functions are determined to be valid.

42.   The memory medium according to claim 41, said program further comprising the step of controlling the peripheral devices involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation step in order to execute said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

43.   The memory medium according to claim 42, wherein said control step controls said peripheral device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

44.   The memory medium according to claim 42, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said control step causes image data to be input to said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

45.   The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein:

said system display step modifies the appearance of the icons designated by said designation step distinguishably from the other icons, if said combined functions are determined to be valid by said determination step.

46.   The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein:

when icons are designated by said designation step, said system display step modifies the appearance of said designated icons distinguishably from the other icons.

47.   The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing an printer are designated by said designation step, said system display step causes an image to be displayed on said display, said image indicating that data is being transferred from said scanner to said printer.

48.   The memory medium according to claim 41, the program further comprising the step of determining a parameter involving said combined functions based on information about the function of peripheral devices according to the combination of icons designated by said designation step.

49.   The memory medium according to claim 48, wherein said setup screen display step causes said setup screen to be displayed on said display based on the parameter determined by said parameter determination step.

50.	The memory medium according to claim 48, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines the resolution of a copy function based on the resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said printer.

51.	The memory medium according to claim 48, wherein;

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is to be performed.

52.	The memory medium according to claim 48, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines a paper size.

53.	The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein said obtaining step obtains information about the function of said peripheral device.

54.	The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein plural other data processing apparatuses capable of performing data communication with said data processing apparatus are connected to said predetermined communication medium.

55.	The memory medium according to claim 53, wherein any of said plurality of data processing apparatuses is assigned as a management server.

56.	The memory medium according to claim 55, wherein said obtaining step obtains said connection information and said status information from said management server.

57.	The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein said peripheral devices includes a printer.

58.   The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein said peripheral devices includes a facsimile.

59.   The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein said peripheral devices includes a digital copier.

60.   The memory medium according to claim 41, wherein said peripheral devices including a scanner.

61.   A control program for a data processing apparatus capable of performing data communication with various peripheral devices connected to a predetermined communication medium, comprising the steps of:

obtaining connection information and status information about said peripheral devices;

displaying a system configuration on a display with icons based on said connection information and said status information obtained by said obtaining step;

designating the combination of any of said icons displayed on said display;

determining whether combined functions based on said combination of icons designated by said designation step is valid or not; and

displaying on said display a setup screen for the combined functions based on said combination designated by said designation step if said combined functions are determined to be valid.

62.   The program according to claim 61, further comprising the step of controlling the peripheral devices involving said combination of the icons designated by said designation step in order to execute said combined functions in response to an execution instruction.

63.   The program according to claim 62, wherein said control step controls said peripheral device based on a parameter input in said setup screen.

64.   The program according to claim 62, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said control step causes image data to be input to said scanner, said image data to be transferred from said scanner to said printer, and said image data to be output on said printer.

65.   The program according to claim 61, wherein:

said system display step modifies the appearance of the icons designated by said designation step distinguishably from the other icons, if said combined functions are determined to be valid by said determination step.

66.   The program according to claim 61, wherein:

when icons are designated by said designation step, said system display step modifies the appearance of said designated icons distinguishably from the other icons.

67.   The program according to claim 61, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing an printer are designated by said designation step, said system display step causes an image to be displayed on said display, said image indicating that data is being transferred from said scanner to said printer.

68.   The program according to claim 61, further comprising the step of determining a parameter involving said combined functions based on information about the function of peripheral devices according to the combination of icons designated by said designation step.

69.   The program according to claim 68, wherein said setup screen display step causes said setup screen to be displayed on said display based on the parameter determined by said parameter determination step.

70.   The program according to claim 68, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines the resolution of a copy function based on the resolution of said scanner and the resolution of said printer.

71.   The program according to claim 68, wherein;

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines which of the two copying mode, color or monochrome, is to be performed.

72.   The program according to claim 68, wherein:

when an icon representing a scanner and an icon representing a printer are designated by said designation step, said determination step determines a paper size.

73.   The program according to claim 61, wherein said obtaining step obtains information about the function of said peripheral device.

74.   The program according to claim 61, wherein plural other data processing apparatuses capable of performing data communication with said data processing apparatus are connected to said predetermined communication medium.

75.   The program according to claim 73, wherein any of said plurality of data processing apparatuses is assigned as a management server.

76.   The program according to claim 75, wherein said obtaining step obtains said connection information and said status information from said management server.

77.   The program according to claim 61, wherein said peripheral devices includes a printer.

78.   The program according to claim 61, wherein said peripheral devices includes a facsimile.

79.   The program according to claim 61, wherein said peripheral devices includes a digital copier.

80.   The program according to claim 61, wherein said peripheral devices including a scanner.